

destroy a considerable number of children who would otherwise be healthy. The nation cannot afford this loss, and it is satisfactory to find that the teaching of mothercraft is not only becoming more general, but that it is, on the whole, proceeding upon thoroughly sound and practical lines.

A. F. TREDGOLD.

**Hague, W. GRANT, M.D.** *The Eugenic Marriage.* 4 vols. Review of Reviews Company, New York; 1914.

THE first impression of this undoubtedly useful book is that it contains a great deal of fine miscellaneous reading. There are four volumes. In the first, Dr. Hague develops the eugenic ideal of race and goes on to discuss the problems of pregnancy and childbirth. There are two illustrations in the volumes which do not seem to be in any way connected with the contents. In another volume, dealing, *inter alia*, with sex hygiene, baby feeding, and constipation, we are treated to a photograph of the prize-winning baby at a New York baby show, dressed all in her Sunday best, neatly finished off with beads and butterfly bow. Here and there, in a third volume, are a few diagrams illustrating the descent of feeble-mindedness, occurring at haphazard in the middle of sections on the "Cheerful Wife and Mother," the importance of "making resolves," of "filling up spare moments," and avoiding the "patent medicine evil." The last volume starts away with chapters on accidents and emergencies, outlines the treatment of infantile diseases and complaints, deprecates the habit of sitting on the floor, of kissing babies when infected by cold, of boxing children's ears, gives excellent reasons and advice for exterminating mosquitoes, moths and flies, and ends up with a few brief notes on radium, new anæsthetics, "606," and the surgical transference of organs from the dead to the living.

The volumes are full of sound commonsense. No one could be the worse for glancing through them, and many people would be much the better for following the advice given by Dr. Hague, who writes with sympathy and understanding. Yet the impression left on the reviewer's mind is that it is really pathetic that there should be a demand for so much miscellaneous information, conveyed in this casual, happy-go-lucky style. The columns of the second and third rate women's and family newspapers deal piecemeal with much the same matter in much the same manner, and give the same effect of encouraging familiarity without reticence and knowledge without wisdom. Dr. Hague probably knows his circle of readers, and we must assume that he is giving his clients the facts they require in a way which is acceptable to them. The pity of it is, as he himself would no doubt readily agree, that our system of upbringing and ideals of education make necessary such a treatment of the fundamental problems of normal domestic life.

C.D.W.

**Heape, WALTER, M.A., F.R.S.** *Preparation for Marriage.* Cassell and Co., Ltd.; 1914; pp. 168; price 2s. 6d.

MR. HEAPE has written this book avowedly as a preparation for marriage. It is perhaps doubtful whether it is an advantage for many individuals about to marry to do so with too intimate a foreknowledge of the devices by which Nature lures on each generation in turn to perform their reproductive functions or with too much critical insight into the purpose and character of the various emotions to be encountered in the intimate and intricate relationship established in monogamous marriages. Yet Mr. Heape certainly expresses views which throw light on many of the difficulties of modern married life, and it would be well if some of his knowledge of the problems involved could—preferably unconsciously—pass into the possession of our young people as part of the heritage of our race.

As a biologist, looking for the full performance of every functional activity, Mr. Heape takes marriage and parenthood to be the natural